

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Kindly amend the specification in the following manner.

Please replace the paragraph on page 13, beginning at line 28 and ending on page 14, line 13 with the following amended paragraph.

According to the formula 4, the vehicle weight m is calculated by dividing the filtered driving force h_f by the filtered acceleration h_{dv} . When the value of the filtered acceleration h_{dv} is small, a percentage of a noise included in the filtered acceleration h_{dv} should be small as possible because such noise may lower the estimation accuracy of the vehicle weight m . To avoid such phenomena, it is preferably that the vehicle weight m is estimated based on a integration of the filtered acceleration h_{dv} being equivalent to an average value of the filtered acceleration h_{dv} within a certain period (interval), and a integration of the filtered driving force h_f within the same certain period when the filtered acceleration h_{dv} becomes significantly large at the time of , for example, the vehicle starts driving. In other words, the formula 4 may be changed into the formula 5 which can improve the estimating accuracy of the vehicle weight m by setting an integration period in the formula 5 as a predetermined period when the vehicle starts driving.